



Solid Waste Update

Volume 3; Number I

September 1999

Wood Recycle & Composting Center Receives Compost Operations Award

By Ken Powell

Wood Recycle & Composting Center (WRCC) and its owner Dean Frankenbery were honored for outstanding efforts to promote composting and wood waste reuse in the Wichita area at the Recycling & Composting Works! conference held last March in Lindsborg. This award is given annually to recognize a composting facility which has shown leadership in promoting composting in Kansas. WRCC is the first private facility to receive this award.

WRCC has been permitted as a yard waste composting facility for four years. WRCC's began operating on 21st Street in Wichita at the site of the former stockyards. They chose this site because it was close to their existing pallet recycling and manufacturing facility. The site also had the advantage of being in an industrial area with controlled access. In 1996, Wichita was considering a ban on landfilling yard waste. If implemented, this decision would have generated a large amount of material for the facility. Even without the ban, WRCC was able to expand its operations and in three years had outgrown the site. This was mainly due to the amount of wood waste generated from waste pallets at their pallet rebuilding facility and from trees and brush supplied by the community. Presently WRCC is in the process of closing out this site.

WRCC's second site opened in January 1999 on 70 acres of land in Park City. A 20 acre composting pad has been developed with room to expand when the county yard waste ban takes effect. The design of this pad allows for efficient use of the equipment as well as good drainage for wet weather operation. This larger site has given WRCC room to construct a building for the pallet operation, which saves time in moving the waste pallets to the processing area. With a separate pad for the wood waste grinding, the materials can be handled more efficiently. Room was also provided for the storage of the ground wood chips and mulch. As a new service WRCC

offers wood chips in a variety of colors to suit customers' needs.

In an effort to develop new sources of raw materials for their composting operation, WRCC asked for and received approval for a pilot project involving food waste, waste grain, and other compostable materials. WRCC is working on a cooperative agreement with the Wichita Public Schools and others to handle all of the compostable wastes from their kitchens. WRCC applied for and was recently awarded a Round # 8 Competitive Plan Implementation grant of \$200,000 to enhance their composting activities. **ZooManoo™** compost, which the Sedgwick County Zoo used to make, is now being made by WRCC. The zoo waste is kept separate from the other compost to be able to guarantee that what is being bought by zoo patrons is the "real thing". WRCC is providing test results on the compost from the source separated materials. KDHE plans to use this information to encourage other facilities to start utilizing additional materials.

Other services provided by WRCC are custom grinding of wood wastes and custom screening of wood chips and compost. The custom grinding is done with large tub grinders which can handle most logs and stumps. A large trommel screen is used to screen the materials to different size categories which makes different grades of mulch and compost. WRCC provides these services throughout Kansas and in other states.





Kansas Clean Sweep Dioxin Collection Program



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) along with Safety-Kleen Corporation and the farmers and ranchers of Farm Bureau are sponsoring a free dioxin disposal program August 16, 1999 through October 16, 1999. The program will be limited to old agricultural pesticides which may contain dioxins.

Dioxins were originally discovered as a by-product in the trichlorophenol manufacturing process which has been used to make some pesticides. Dioxins are of concern in the environment because of their ability to accumulate in the body fat of animal tissue. Once in the environment, dioxins do not break down easily. Several of the dioxin molecules are known human carcinogens. Dioxins are usually found in some very old herbicides and livestock treatment products manufactured prior to the mid 1980's. The most common of these products will contain Silvex, 2,4,5-T, and pentachlorophenol.

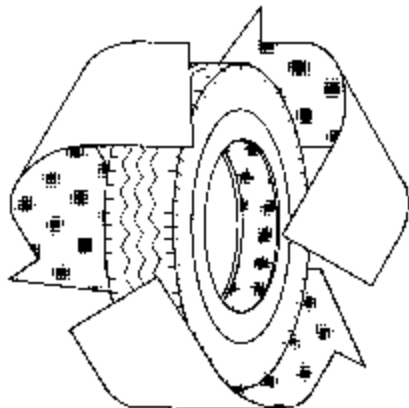
Any farmer, rancher, or homeowner who has an old pesticide which may contain dioxins is eligible for the program. Over 40 temporary collection sites have been set up across the state. Individuals who have pesticides containing dioxins should contact the collection center nearest them to arrange a convenient drop off time. Educational materials which include posters and a brochure on dioxin identification and collection center locations has been developed and are being distributed statewide. For more information on the program, contact Jim Rudeen at 785-291-3132.

Waste Tire Amnesty Program Begins

The last phase of the statewide waste tire cleanup has begun with the start of county amnesty events. These events are designed to provide one last opportunity for Kansas residents to clean out their garages, barns and back lots of unwanted tires. A maximum of 100 tires per household will be accepted during amnesty collections. This is the only part of the statewide waste tire cleanup which may include tires which were accumulated after to July 1, 1990 (pre-law) when waste tire laws were first established. However, waste tires accumulated by businesses since July 1, 1990 (post-law) are excluded.

Amnesty events have been conducted in

Decatur, Nemaha and Franklin County. Jim Cain, Franklin County Solid Waste Management director reports that the number of county residents who participated in the event was more impressive than the number of



tires collected. Cain promoted the collection through

SOLID WASTE FACT

Nearly 5 million tons of solid waste are disposed of each year in 230 Kansas landfills.

the local newspaper, radio and posters provided by KDHE. Still, he felt the most effective publicity was the informal "tell your neighbor, tell your friend," network.

A total of 47 counties have applied for the first round of amnesty events. Applications may be submitted at any time but all state-funded waste tire collections must be completed by July 1, 2001 when responsibility for waste tire cleanup shifts to the counties. Priority in scheduling amnesty events will be given to counties which consolidated their inventoried tire piles for cleanup. Counties must provide a controlled-access collection point and staffing for the event. Amnesty collections may be scheduled over an assigned 30-day period. All tires collected will be removed by the state contractor at the conclusion of the event.

For information on the statewide waste tire cleanup or amnesty event application materials contact: Marty Burke, Bureau of Waste Management, Building 740, Forbes Field, Topeka, Kansas 66620-0001, (800) 282-9790, (785) 296-1611 or by e-mail at mburke@kdhe.state.ks.us.

Shooting for the Moon and Setting Goals

On July 20, 1999, America celebrated the 30th anniversary of a human's walk on the moon. This monumental achievement was created with a dramatic goal set by President Kennedy in 1961. The astronauts landed in the summer of 1969 and returned from the moon with a stronger faith, reverence for life, rock samples but no Swiss cheese.

Anyone that wants to go some where, accomplish an activity or succeed in some endeavor, usually set a goal. Goal setting and planning are effective tools to help create the cooperation and competition to get things done.

Communities across Kansas are composting, recycling and finding ways to reduce the materials that go to their landfill or transfer station. This has been primarily done on a voluntary basis without landfill bans of particular materials or recycling goals from the state. Recognizing the broad diversity in Kansas and the individual sense of place people have in their communities, counties and regions, the State of Kansas has not established a statewide goal **but encourages localities to create their own**. Some regions and counties have established recycling goals to reduce their waste streams and delay the costs and siting problems of developing a new landfill.

Franklin and Associates (FAL), a private consulting group based in Kansas has been providing the national solid waste generation, discards, waste

characterization, and recycling rates on behalf of the EPA for three decades. In their 1997 report Solid Waste Management at the Crossroads, FAL noted that municipal solid waste (MSW) generation has grown steadily from 88 million tons in 1960 to 208 million tons in 1995. While U.S. population grew 1.1% per year over the last 35 years, MSW grew 2.5%. Half of MSW comes from single family homes so, your individual efforts can make a difference. Source reduction activities are finally having an impact on waste generation.

While a new grassroots movement is calling for **Zero Waste**, EPA is considering a 35% waste reduction goal as more reasonable. FAL believes that a 30% recovery rate in 2000 and a 35% in 2010 is feasible but not without effort and cost. When analyzing costs, FAL found that if landfilling costs the average household \$10 a month, the costs of a curbside and composting program added \$3.25. "At \$13.25, the 33% increase in costs generated a 700% increase in the amount of materials recovery. Thus for a relatively small investment a community can achieve a sizable diversion of materials from disposal."

So check your city or county recycling rate and examine current waste management practices. Develop a strong buy recycled policy within your business or local government. Analyze your full costs and encourage everyone to make a difference. Setting goals for recycling, composting and source reduction won't get you to the moon, but working together can save money and resources, make our landfills last longer, and create a healthier and safer environment.

Training Opportunity for Landfill Operators and Supervisors

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment and the SWANA/Kansas "Sunflower Chapter" is sponsoring a training workshop for operators, supervisors, and managers of Municipal Solid Waste Landfills (MSWLFs) and Small Arid Landfills (SALs) on November 3 and 4 at the Holiday Inn Holidome in Great Bend. Training sessions will be held on parallel tracks for operators of small arid landfills and Subtitle D landfills. We expect to have a better training course than the workshop held in Salina in 1997 when there were over 110 attendees.

We plan to mail training course flyers in early September. Please mark your calendars now, watch your mail for details, and plan to attend if you are involved in landfill operations. We have arranged to have selected landfill managers from Kansas and Neal Bolton, a national expert on landfill operations, present their best ideas on how you can improve the quality and efficiency of operations at your landfill.

Recycling Rates

	US	KS
1940's		25.0 %
1960	6.4 %	
1970	6.6 %	
1980	9.6 %	
1990	16.4 %	
1995	26.1 %	
		8 %



Kansas Legislature Amends Several Solid Waste Laws

By Stacey Baalman
and Phil Rosewicz

The Kansas legislature made several changes to the solid waste statutes during the 1999 legislative session. The changes amend Kansas Statutes 65-3407 and 65-3407c and affect the transfer of landfill permits, property ownership of landfills, and disposal of solid waste without a permit. The changes became effective July 1, 1999. A summary of the changes is presented below.

Transfer of Landfill Permits:

Solid waste landfill permits may now be transferred from one permittee to another if: (a) the permitted landfill is used only for disposal of solid waste produced on site from manufacturing and industrial processes or on site construction or demolition activities and (b) the only change to the permit is a name change resulting from a merger, acquisition, sale, corporate restructuring or other business transaction. Until the change in the law, KDHE could not transfer any solid waste permit from one permittee to another. Any change in name or ownership required the new owner to apply for a new permit and complete the entire permitting process. KDHE now has authority to transfer solid waste permits for facilities which meet the two specific conditions. In order for KDHE to transfer a permit, the new owner would need to fulfill financial assurance requirements for closure and post-closure of the landfill and submit a business concern disclosure statement to KDHE for review.

Ownership of Landfills:

The permittee must now provide proof of ownership for any new land disposal area used for any municipal solid waste landfills and for any solid waste landfill which has a leachate or gas collection or treatment system, waste containment systems or appurtenances with planned maintenance schedules or periodic sampling and analysis requirements. This requirement does not apply to a permit for a lateral or vertical expansion contiguous to a permitted solid waste disposal area in operation on July 1, 1999, if such expansion is on land leased by the permittee before April 1, 1999.

Disposal of Solid Waste Without a Permit:

KDHE's authority to approve the disposal of certain types of solid waste at unpermitted sites has been expanded. KDHE may now approve of disposal without first issuing a solid waste permit for the following waste:

- a.) Demolition waste resulting from the demolition of an entire building or structure when disposal occurs at the site where the building or structure was located.
- b.) Solid waste resulting from a transportation accident when buried on property adjacent to or near the accident.
- c.) Solid waste resulting from natural disasters, such as storms, tornadoes, floods, and fires, or other such emergencies when a request for disposal is made by the local governmental authority having jurisdiction over the area.
- d.) Whole unprocessed livestock carcasses on property at, adjacent to or near where the animals died if such animals died as a result of a natural disaster or their presence has created an emergency situation.

In all of the above cases, prior to KDHE granting approval for disposal of these wastes, approval must be obtained from the landowner where the waste will be buried and from the appropriate local governmental or zoning authority having jurisdiction over the disposal site.

Calendar of Solid Waste Related Events



September 1999	Kansas Don't Spoil It! Calendar 2000 school children art contest. <i>For more information contact KDHE at (800)282-9790.</i>
September 10-19, 1999	Great Hunt for Recyclables at the Kansas State Fair, Hutchinson, Kansas. <i>For more information contact KDHE at (800)282-9790.</i>
September 17, 1999	Kansas Don't Spoil It! DAY at the Kansas State Fair, Hutchinson, Kansas featuring special programing, contests and give-aways. <i>For more information contact KDHE at (800)282-9790.</i>
September 26-29, 1999	National Recycling Coalition (NRC) Congress and Exposition in Cincinnati, Ohio. The Midwest Recycling Investment Forum is being held in conjunction with the NRC on September 29, 1999.
September 29 -30, 1999	KDHE Environment Conference: <i>Kansas Environment: Future Directions</i> , Wichita, Kansas, Wichita Marriott. <i>For more information contact: Ricquelle Landis at (785) 296-6603.</i>
October 11-13, 1999	Governor's Solid Waste Grants Advisory Statewide Bus Tour.
October 18-21, 1999	Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) National Convention: WASTECON , Reno, Nevada.
November 3-4, 1999	Landfill Operator Training, Holiday Inn Holidome, Great Bend.
November 5-6, 1999	Kansas Association for Conservation Environmental Education (KACEE) Environmental Education Conference , Salina, Kansas.
November 9, 1999,	Buying Recycled: The Real Story about Cost, Availability, and Quality. from 10:00 AM to 12:00 NOON (Central time), the EPA Waste Wise National Satellite Forum.
November 15, 1999	Third Annual America Recycles Day . Events across the country and the state. <i>Contact: Kansas Recyclers Association (316) 721-9418.</i>
November 15-19, 1999	Hazardous Materials Management Conference on Household, Business and Universal Waste , Tucson, Arizona.
February 1-3, 2000	KDHE Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Training Workshop and Conference , Wichita Airport Hilton, Wichita, Kansas. <i>For more information contact KDHE at (800)282-9790.</i>
March 21-23, 2000	Recycling and Composting WORKS! 2000 Conference, Bethany College Campus, Lindsborg, Kansas.

Make Plans to Attend!

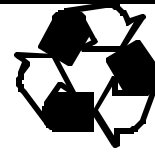
Solid Waste Fact

Since 1994, Kansas has awarded over \$13 million in grants for



Director's Notes

by Bill Bider



A major responsibility of the KDHE solid waste program is to monitor the 350 permitted solid waste facilities in Kansas to assess compliance with applicable environment laws and regulations. State law directs KDHE to initiate enforcement actions when necessary to require facilities to correct non-compliant practices or to penalize facility owners or operators who have committed serious and/or repetitive violations.

Over the past several years, there have been many changes to solid waste facility operating requirements and KDHE has focused on providing technical assistance to facility operators. We are pleased to report that most facilities have worked hard to improve operations and overall our facilities are being operated quite well. However, there are some facilities that continue to demonstrate a lack of understanding or will to fully comply with applicable standards.

KDHE is presently considering enforcement alternatives to address the wide range of compliance problems which are identified through routine inspections. Although technical assistance will continue to a major part of our "compliance and enforcement" efforts, we now intend to move forward with appropriate enforcement actions when serious or repetitive problems are found. Kansas laws and regulations related to facility design and operation were established to protect human health and the environment, and to minimize nuisances. When rules are broken, especially repeatedly, punitive action needs be taken or non-compliance is likely to continue. For this reason, it is probable that a higher level of solid waste enforcement may be implemented over the next year.

If anyone has any questions or comments regarding solid waste compliance or enforcement, please call me at (785) 296-1612 or write. I would be pleased to receive your input in these matters.

If every lawnmower composted grass clippings, the landfill volume of waste landfilled could be cut by 18% during the mowing season.

Grants: Outlook for FY 2000

Even though we are only weeks into FY 2000, most of the department's solid waste grant activity has been completed for this fiscal year. More specifically, applications for FY 2000 grants were received in late FY 1999 and awards are now being made in early FY 2000. This includes grants to support household hazardous waste programs and solid waste plan implementation grants to implement recycling, composting, and solid waste public education programs. One or two planning grants may also be awarded in FY 2000 for applications already received.

Following the recommendations of the Governor's Solid Waste Grants Advisory Committee which met in June 1999, there will not be a second round of plan implementation grants in FY 2000 as there has been in the past four years. There are two related reasons for this shift in policy. The balance of money in the solid waste fund generated from tipping fee revenue is

continuing to shrink. In addition, the committee believes it is an appropriate time to examine the current status of recycling and composting in Kansas to determine how grants have helped improve waste management and where additional financial assistance is needed. For these reasons, the committee recommended administering just one round of grants in FY 2000 to ensure that there will be adequate funding for at least one major round of grants in FY 2001. Applications will be received in the spring of 2000 for Round #9 of this grant program with anticipated awards in early FY 2001 of up to \$1.5 million. A detailed grant guide will be available for interested parties in late 1999.

The governor's committee also recommended that KDHE carry out a study during July to December 1999 to assess current recycling and composting activities statewide. A separate article in this newsletter addresses this study.

KDHE to Perform Statewide Recycling & Composting Survey

The Bureau of Waste Management has contracted with Kansas BIRP to develop a thorough assessment of current recycling and composting activities throughout Kansas. This study will assemble all available information characterizing the collection, processing, transportation, and marketing of recoverable materials by geographic areas. Franklin Associates of Prairie Village, KS will serve as a subcontractor to assist BIRP in completing this project. Franklin Associates has extensive experience in studying solid waste issues both within Kansas and at the national level.

The information assembled under this contract will be used to:

- T Target KDHE outreach programs to encourage local officials and businesses to implement or enhance waste reduction programs
- T Prioritize future grant awards based upon needs and anticipated benefits
- T Support the expected legislative debate in the 2000 session on whether the tipping fee should be returned to its original \$1.50 per ton from its current \$1.00 per ton



BIRP and Franklin Associates will start by assembling information from existing sources such as BIRP's recently updated recycling directory, KDHE solid waste facility permit files, KDHE grant files, and KDHE planning files. They will then supplement and confirm that information by contacting local officials. The results of this assessment will be summarized in a series of maps which identify the level of services available in every county or region. Results will be made available to interested parties after January 1, 2000.

"Get on the Recycle Cycle" Promotion

by Kent Foerster

KDHE has been pursuing environmental education and public awareness campaigns over the past few years as part of Kansas Don't Spoil It! This campaign encourages proper solid waste management practices, recycling, composting, and source reduction while discouraging illegal dumping, littering and wasting precious resources including landfill space. This year a new *Get on the Recycle Cycle* campaign, comprised of radio ads and a pledge card program for elementary school children, was launched. The campaign featured:

- ✓ An article in the winter/spring 1999 edition of Trash Talk! which was delivered to every public and private elementary school in the state - about 42,000 fourth graders and their teachers received this publication.
- ✓ A Pledge Card insert in this edition of Trash Talk! and available at participating Wal*Mart stores.
- ✓ Encouragement to Kansas children to sign a pledge to do something for their home, school, neighborhood, community and the Kansas environment and get a chance to win Wal*Mart bicycles and Kansas Don't Spoil It! gear.
- ✓ Kansas Information Network Radio KDHE Kansas Don't Spoil It! Radio Ads ran January - April, 1999 with special promotional ads for the Get on the Recycle Cycle Wal*Mart campaign March - April, 1999.

1,294 students from across Kansas participated in this first Get on the Recycle Cycle pledge drive and signed a pledge to help the Kansas environment. Some pledged to buy recycled products or reduce what they used or reuse items. Others pledged to start a garden, while others pledged to compost, grass cycle or clean up their neighborhood. Nine Wal*Mart stores awarded bicycles to ten Kansas students and KDHE provided special Get on the Recycle Cycle patches to all participants.

The winners this year are:

Amanda Braden
Charles 'Quincy' Scott
Jeffrey Thomason
Dylan Daratt
Hannah Kjos

Atlanta
Salina
Ottawa
Mulvane
Manhattan

Tim Aimes
Chelsea Reedy
David Herrington
Stephanie Kay Williams
Erica Smith

Wichita
Topeka
Wichita
El Dorado
St George

**Kansas Department of Health & Environment
Bureau of Waste Management
Building 740, Forbes Field
Topeka, Kansas 66620-0001**

264-21

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Inside . . .

Feature Facility	
1	
Kansas Clean Sweep	
2	
Waste Tires	
2	
Kansas Recycling Rate	3
Training Opportunity	3
Legislative Update	4
Calendar of Events	
5	
Director's Notes	

Measuring Recycling in Kansas

This is the second year that the Bureau of Waste Management (BWM) has surveyed recyclers in Kansas attempting to calculate the recycling rate for the state. Response to the survey is voluntary for traditional recyclers and all voluntary information is confidential. BWM follows EPA's guidelines for measuring recycling of municipal solid waste. Using these guidelines ensures accurate comparisons between states.

For the 1997 survey period approximately 2,000 of EPA's survey forms were sent out to Kansas recyclers with a response rate of 33%; the recycling rate for 1997 was calculated at 13%.

1998's survey form was refined in order to simplify reporting and to obtain more accurate data. The mailing list was also more targeted. Of the 1,089 surveys sent out, 406 were returned. An additional 182 recyclers responded to follow-up phone calls. This equals a response rate of 54%.

The recycling rate for 1998 was calculated at 12%. The drop from 1997 to 1998 may be attributed to the disappointing response from the large processors this year. Many who responded to last year's survey did not choose to participate this year, making accurate calculations difficult.

The response of even one recycler can have a large impact on our recycling rate calculation. To illustrate this, the amount of material recycled in 1997 by one large processor (who did not respond to this year's survey) was added to the 1998 numbers. The calculated recycling rate jumped from 12% to 16%!

We can safely conclude that the actual recycling rate in Kansas is substantially higher than 12%.

BWM thanks those of you who took the time to respond and encourages all recyclers to participate in our annual recycling survey. Receiving complete recycling information will allow meaningful tracking of recycling efforts in Kansas and provide a more accurate comparison with other states. If you are an end-user, a processor, or a large generator of recyclables and you did not get a survey, please contact Cherie Cregut at (785) 296-1123. If you have any questions about this project, please call Christine Mennicke at (785) 296-0724.